

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph at page 13, lines 19-22 as follows:

Next, as shown in Figure 18, pressure is applied in the direction of an arrow 83 to the cutting blade 61. The cutting blade 61 moves the right half of the covering 63 rightward. As shown in Figure 19, the covering 63 of the optical fiber 62 is be stripped from the optical fiber 62.